



December 2004

The Bay Leaf

California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter • Alameda & Contra Costa Counties
www.ebcnps.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board of Directors' Meeting, Wednesday, December 1, 7:30 pm, home of Barbara Leitner, 2 Parkway Court, Orinda

Native Here Nursery, p. 6

Fridays, December 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Native Here Nursery open 9-noon

Saturdays, December 4, 11, 18, Nursery open 10-1; closed Dec 25

CNPS Chapter Council Meeting and Annual Banquet

Saturday, December 4, 8:30 am—9:30 pm, The Faculty Club at the University of California at Berkeley

Plant Sale Activities, p. 2

Tuesdays, December 7, 14, 21, (no meeting on the 28th), 9 am to noon, Merritt College, 1255 Campus Drive, Oakland, Landscape Horticulture Department

Native Plant Restoration Team, p. 2

Saturday, December 11, 9:30 am—12:30 pm, **Cape Ivy removal in Joaquin Miller Park**

Field Trip, p. 2

Sunday, January 2, 2005, **Huddert County Park, San Mateo County**

Meet at the main parking lot (off Kings Mountain Road) at 2:00 pm.

THANK YOU, SAN FRANCISCO FOUNDATION!

The San Francisco Foundation has approved a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for 12 months (December, 2004 through November, 2005) "to support the work of the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society in promoting the use of high quality plant science data gathered by chapter volunteers, and educate agency staff and elected officials in issues relevant to native plant conservation in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties".

The grant assures that the chapter can retain the East Bay Conservation Analyst through 2005. Thanks are extended to all the members who responded to the appeal for funds. The fact that the chapter exceeded the \$6000 goal of that campaign helps in two ways: the San Francisco Foundation was able to see that the Conservation Analyst position is supported by the membership, and the grant, combined with the member donations, will fund the position up to and beyond the grant term of November 2005.

In the words of the grant agreement, the purposes of the grant are to:

"1) Sustain a Conservation Analyst position to focus the work of the Chapter's skilled volunteer botanists and conservationists, and ensure that their expertise is presented more effectively in land use planning processes and to local government agencies.

2) Monitor the end stages of planning for the East Contra Costa Habitat Conservation Plan and be vigilant, as actual sites are chosen for development and protection, to ensure that fragmentation does not occur beyond the level that will sustain sensitive plant habitats.

3) Increase CNPS visibility and cooperation with environmental and advocacy organizations working in the East Bay."

Charli Danielsen

PLANT SALE ACTIVITIES



Tuesdays
December 7, 14, 21
(no meeting on the 28th)
9 a.m. to noon
Merritt College, Oakland
Landscape Horticulture Department
Parking fee: 50 cents

Come for a visit on Tuesday mornings, rain or shine; look over these plants available for sale and introduce a few more to your garden.

Yarrow	Mountain Mahogany
Pipevine	Fremontia
Ginger	Hazelnut
Stream Orchid	Currant
Soap Root	Coffeeberry
<i>Ceanothus</i>	Silktassel
Manzanita	Sea Daisy
Grape	Alum Root
Sage	Snowberry
Island Snapdragon	Bee Plant
Grass – Muhly & Fescue	Ninebark
	Creambush
	Redwood

Keep this list as we will continue sales after the holidays.

Iris note: This month and on into January is the only time during the year when your crowded native iris will take kindly to being dug up, divided, and replanted. The newly forming roots, soft and white, are just emerging from the rhizome and ready to spread. Trim and clean ragged leaves and dried up old roots from last year before replanting.

Shirley McPheeters

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, January 2, 2005, **Huddert County Park, San Mateo County**

Meet at the main parking lot (off Kings Mountain Road) at 2:00 pm.

Fetid adder's tongue (*Scolopus bigelovii*), one of the earliest flowering plants in the year, is usually out first thing in the new year on the Crystal Springs Trail in the redwood forests in this pleasant county park. The walk is about 1.5 miles, with an elevation change of two hundred feet or so.

To get to the park: take I-280 south from San Francisco to the Woodside Road (State 84) exit. Take Woodside Road (84) west about 1.5 miles through the village of Woodside and go right onto Kings Mountain Road. The park entrance is on the right a mile or two up the hill. The main parking lot is just after the pay station. You must pay for parking even if the station is not staffed.

Please contact David Margolies (510-654-0283, divaricatum@aol.com) if you need further information.

Janet Gawthrop

NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION TEAM

Saturday December 11, 9:30 am-12:30 pm, **Cape Ivy removal in Joaquin Miller Park**

Join the CNPS Restoration Team and the Friends of Sausal Creek in eradicating an isolated stand of cape ivy high up in the headwaters of Sausal Creek. The site was partially cleared last spring and needs a second pass to catch re-sprouts. We will also make a first pass on the remainder of the infested area.

The work takes place from 9:30 am-12:30 pm. There will be a free plant raffle during a break in the activities. After weeding, The Friends invite native plant enthusiasts to join them in the nursery for their regular propagation session from 1:30 till 4 pm.

Directions: Going south on Highway 13:

- 1) From Highway 13 take the Joaquin Miller exit and turn east/left up the hill
- 2) 3/4 miles up Joaquin Miller look for Sanborn Road on the left. This is easiest to find by looking for the sign in the median of the road that says "Native Plant Nursery". (The road is labeled Sanborn on the left of Joaquin Miller and Robinson to the right).
- 3) Park along Joaquin Miller near Sanborn and walk to the northeast corner (up the hill to the left) of the intersection. There you will see a locked yellow fire gate.
- 4) The Cape ivy infestation is down the fire road and just over the bridge.

Supplies and gear: poison oak occurs on site, so wear protective gear if you are allergic,

Questions or comments? contact Greg Wolford at 510-848-6489 or at Californica@mac.com

Greg Wolford, Tom Kelly, and Jane Kelly

CONSERVATION

It is wonderful to have a committee with so many members active on so many issues, and to have our Conservation Analyst, too. October and early November have been busy for us.

Although the results of the national election were not promising for environmentalists, two local issues that the chapter supported passed handily. Hercules Measure M was passed by 63% of the voters there. It precludes almost all development in the scenic 633-acre Franklin Canyon. Measure CC had over 67% of the vote and will fund a number of park maintenance measures. We backed it primarily because it funds an EIR on vegetation management for fire protection as well as funding the work. With the EIR, there is a better chance of the work being done in a less damaging manner for habitat and native plant survival.

Dick VrMeer, Elaine Jackson, Gregg Weber and Laura Baker have continued to represent the chapter at a variety of meetings.

Jessica Olson, our Conservation Analyst, has worked with several other members of the conservation committee to respond to a number of issues:

- Regional Wetland Permit Program (RPP) for the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan.
- Concord's Notice of Preparation for Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). This dealt with expanding the urban limit line and bringing some of the Concord Naval Weapons Station lands into the Concord plan.
- City of Richmond's Notice of Preparation for a DEIR at Point Richmond Shores. *Lilaeopsis asonii*, a CNPS list 1B rare plant, occurs in the potential development area.
- Collaboration with state and chapter plant science and conservation committee members to utilize the CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) process in formulating comments and response to Livermore Intensive Agriculture DEIR. Six special status species are found at Springtown wetlands.

Jessica will be attending a workshop on Habitat Conservation Plans in November.

Another meeting of the EB CNPS Conservation Committee is being planned for January. Date and place to be announced in the January *Bay Leaf*. You may

also contact Jessica, jjolson@cnps.org, for information about assisting the conservation committee.

Should you wish to contribute to support the Conservation Analyst position, donations may be sent to CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816. Please make check to CNPS and indicate that it is for East Bay Conservation Analyst Fund.

Charli Danielsen

NATIVE HERE NURSERY

Fridays, December 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Native Here Nursery open 9-noon.

Saturdays, December 4, 11, 18, Nursery open 10-1; closed Dec 25

The days are shorter. The leaves have fallen off the elderberries, alders, and maples at the nursery. The air is cold and crisp and damp. All the plants are watered by rain now. Banana slugs love this time of year, inching around and sometimes curling up in pots and munching plants away.

Our resident quail family is quieter this time of year, but the scrub jays and Steller's jays make their presence known with their loud, raucous speech. They watch you from the elderberry tree growing next to the 4" potting-up table and have an extraordinary ability to spot your lunch on the table and hop down to steal a bite when you're not looking.

This is one of the calm times of year at the nursery. Most people are busy getting ready for the holidays, but we still have lots of plants and it's a good time to put them in the ground. Stroll around and you'll see irises, gooseberries, rushes, grasses, fringe cups, yarrow, madrones, valley oaks, buckeyes, milkweed, and much more. You can also come by and help out at the nursery. We have lots of transplanting to do and raking needles and leaves out of pots. No need to call ahead (except if it's raining or very windy). Show up either day we are open. We are located in Tilden Park at 101 Golf Course Drive (across the street from the entrance to the Tilden Golf Course). Ph. 510-549-0211

Margot Cunningham, Native Here Nursery

Conservation is sometimes perceived as stopping everything cold, as holding whooping cranes in higher esteem than people. It is up to science to spread the understanding that the choice is not between wild places or people, it is between a rich or an impoverished existence for Man.

Thomas E. Lovejoy, quoted in *Balancing on the Brink of Extinction*, ed. Kathryn A. Kohm 1991 *

CALIFORNIA BOTANICAL SOCIETY

Schedule of Speakers

- November 18 **The cost of flowers in ecological currencies**
Susan Lambrecht, Department of Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz
- January 20 **Bryogeography of California: what can we learn from the mosses about past and future climate changes?**
James Shevock, Californian Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
University of California, Berkeley
- February 19 Annual Banquet & Graduate Student Meeting, Romberg Tiburon Center, Tiburon, CA
Center for Tropical Research (CITRO): A New Initiative in a Time of Crisis
Arturo Gomez-Pompa, Department of Plant Sciences
University of California, Riverside
- March 17 **Dynamics of the last, intact, Jeffrey pine ecosystem from northwest Mexico: US restoration implications**
Scott L. Stephens, Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management
University of California, Berkeley
- April 21 **Effect of differing substrates on plant physiology and distribution in the alpine Sierra Nevada**
Elizabeth H. Wenk, Department of Integrative Biology
University of California, Berkeley
- May 19 **Diversification of floral development in the papilionoid legume tribe Amorpheae**
Michelle McMahon, Department of Evolution and Ecology
University of California, Davis

Lectures are free and held at 7:30 pm
2040 Valley Life Sciences Building
University of California, Berkeley.

Except for the lecture on February 19

****Reception with speaker following lecture in the University and Jepson Herbaria Foyer****

Dean G. Kelch
University and Jepson Herbaria
1001 Valley Life Sciences Building 2465
University of California
Berkeley, CA
94720
510-642-2465
fax: 510-643-5390
dkelch@sscl.berkeley.edu



Brewer's weeping spruce, *Picea breweriana*, is an attractive conifer endemic to the Klamath Mountains of northwest California and southwest Oregon. It is mainly found at upper elevations of the coniferous zone, extending to tree line, where mature trees can form isolated clumps with gracefully drooping branches in cool places. It is sometimes grown as an ornamental tree in arboreta in England and elsewhere. It is seen here below Wedding Cake Peak (in the background) in the Trinity Alps.

Photo and caption by John Game

ACTIVITIES OF OTHERS

Volunteers Sought for Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour

The Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour is seeking volunteers who will spend a morning or afternoon greeting tour participants and answering questions at this native plant garden tour. More than 40 gardens located throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties will be showcased on this tour, which will take place on Sunday, May 1, 2005.

The marvelous collection of gardens on the tour ranges from Jenny and Scott Fleming's 50 year old collector's garden to several that are newly installed, from five acre lots to small front gardens in the flats. Some gardens are "locally native", others make use of plants from throughout California. Some are designed and installed by owners, others by professionals.

Benefits to volunteers include a pre-tour meeting with the owner and private tour of the garden you will be

staffing, a guaranteed tour reservation for the half day you are free, a Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour t-shirt, and, perhaps best of all, heartfelt thanks for helping to educate the general public about the many pleasures and benefits of gardening with California native plants. Gardens will be assigned on a first-come basis. For more information, please e-mail Kathy Kramer at Kathy@KathyKramerConsulting.net, or call 510-236-9558 between 9 am and 9 pm.

Major donors of this event are the Alameda County Water Conservation and Flood Control District, Contra Costa Clean Water Program, City of Richmond, City of San Pablo, Jiji Foundation, Rose Foundation, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Program.

Supporters are Annie's Annuals, the California Invasive Pest Plant Council, East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, LifeGarden, and the National Wildlife Federation.



Opuntia fragilis, shown here, is known as pigmy tuna or fragile Pricklypear. It is a true *Opuntia* in the section of the genus with short, roundish, clustered segments close to the round. The yellow-green flowers open in late May or June. But its most remarkable quality may be its distribution. It is the most northern of any Cactus. In California it is found only in the open dry country of Shasta Valley, in Siskiyou County east of Interstate 5, as seen here. From there it ranges east and north all the way to Canada, where it is said to survive winter temperatures of minus thirty Fahrenheit. *Photo and caption by John Game.*

Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President:

Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna St., Berkeley 94704, 841-4681,
pepe1066@comcast.net

Vice President, Administration:

Laura Baker, 79 Roble Road, Berkeley, 94705, 849-1409,
Lbake66@aol.com

Treasurer:

Holly Forbes, 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530, 234-2913, w/643-8040

Secretaries:**Recording:**

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bleitner@pacbell.net

Corresponding:

vacant

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Tony Morosco, berkbotanist@onebox.com

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Vacant

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Charli Danielsen, 10 Kerr Ave., Berkeley 94707, 549-0211,
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East Bay Public Lands:

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jwhawley@aol.com

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654-3066, _janetg24@excite.com

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wbmccoy@earthlink.net

Hospitality:

Irene Wilkinson, 440 Camino Sobrante, Orinda 94563, 925-254-3675

Media:

Vacant

Membership:

Delia Taylor, 1851 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707, 527-3912,
deliataylor@mac.com

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charlid@pacbell.net

Native Plant Restoration Team:

Greg Wolford, 2945 Otis St., Berkeley CA 94703, 510-848-6489,
californica@mac.com

Plant Communities:

Susan Bainbridge, 2408 Parker St., Berkeley 94704, 548-2918,
suebain@SSCL.Berkeley.EDU

Plant Sale:

Shirley McPheeters, 104 Ivy Dr., Orinda 94563, 925-376-4095
Phoebe Watts, 1419 Grant St., Berkeley 94703, 525-6614,
phwatts@cs.com

Plant Sale Publicity:

Elaine Jackson, 3311 Estudillo St., Martinez 94553, 925-372-0687,
elainejx@mindspring.com

Posters:

Vacant

Programs:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornia@earthlink.net

Rare Plants:

John Game, 1155 Spruce St., Berkeley 94707, 527-7855,
jcggame@lbl.gov

Regional Parks Botanic Garden Liaison:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornia@earthlink.net

Unusual Plants:

Dianne Lake, 1050 Bayview Farm Rd. #121, Pinole 94564, 741-8066,
diannelake@yahoo.com

Recorded Chapter Information: 464-4977

CNPS Home Page: www.cnps.org

East Bay Chapter CNPS Home Page:

www.ebcnps.org

Bay Leaf online

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

I wish to affiliate with:

____ East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

____ Other _____

E-mail _____
(optional)

Membership category:

____ Student, Retired, Limited income, \$20

____ Individual, Library, \$35

____ Household, Family, or Group, \$45

____ Supporting, \$75

____ Plant lover, \$100

____ Patron, \$250

____ Benefactor, \$500

____ Mariposa Lily, \$1000

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816

**East Bay Chapter, California Native Plant Society
Ballot for Chapter Officers to take office January, 2005**

Vote for one for each office.

President and Delegate to Chapter Council Chairs chapter board and membership meetings, Assures that appropriate committees and coordinators perform the chapter's work.	Elaine Worthington-Jackson	
Vice President and Alternate Delegate to Council Assists and acts as back-up to the president. Keeps an inventory of chapter equipment.	Laura Baker	
Treasurer Keeps the chapter financial records, makes disbursements as required. Serves on budget committee.	Holly Forbes	
Recording Secretary Takes, edits and distributes minutes of board meetings. Maintains a file of minutes and related docu- ments.	Barbara Malloch Leitner	
Corresponding Secretary Maintains a file of chapter correspondence. Is responsible for receiving and answering correspondence, and for sending official letters from the chapter.	Heath Bartosh	

Why vote in an uncontested election? The CNPS members who have agreed to serve as officers deserve the support of the membership. These are volunteer positions requiring dedication and a considerable amount of time.

Please vote and send your ballot to PO Box 5597, Elmwood Station, Berkeley, CA 94705 before December 31, 2004,.

**California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley CA 94705**

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